

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A paper handling apparatus comprising:
at least one of a paper guide opening for receiving a paper carried from outside,
and a paper discharge opening for discharging a paper outside; and
a coupling section for coupling to other paper handling apparatus, the coupling
section being provided at a position approximately equal to ~~that to~~ the paper guide
opening or the paper discharge opening in a vertical direction.
2. (Original) The paper handling apparatus of claim 1, wherein the coupling
section is arranged at two positions approximately symmetric with respect to a center of
a carrying path in a paper carrying direction.
3. (Original) The paper handling apparatus of claim 1, wherein the coupling
section is arranged at a position within a range of ± 60 mm from a position of the paper
guide opening or the paper discharge opening in a vertical direction.
4. (Original) The paper handling apparatus fo claim 1, wherein the paper
handling apparatus comprises both of the paper guide opening and the paper discharge
opening, which are arranged at an approximately same position in a vertical direction.

5. (Original) The paper handling apparatus of claim 1, wherein the paper handling apparatus comprises any one of an image forming apparatus for forming an image, a paper feeding apparatus for feeding the paper to the image forming apparatus, and a paper post-processing apparatus for performing a post-process to the paper which was discharged from the image forming apparatus.

6. (Currently Amended) An image forming system comprising:
a plurality of paper handling apparatuses,
wherein each of the paper handling apparatuses comprises at least one of a paper guide opening for receiving a paper carried from outside, and a paper discharge opening for discharging a paper outside, and a coupling section for coupling to other paper handling apparatus, the coupling section being provided at a position approximately equal to ~~that of~~ the paper guide opening or the paper discharge opening in a vertical direction; and the plurality of paper handling apparatuses are coupled by the coupling section.

7. (Original) The image forming system of claim 6, wherein the coupling section is arranged at two positions approximately symmetric with respect a center of a carrying path in a paper carrying.

8. (Original) The image forming system of claim 6, wherein the coupling section is arranged at a position within a range of ± 60 mm from a position of the paper guide opening or the paper discharge opening in a vertical direction.

9. (Original) The image forming system of claim 6, wherein at least one of the plurality of paper handling apparatuses comprises both of the paper guide opening and the paper discharge opening, which are arranged at an approximately same position in a vertical direction.

10. (Original) The image forming system of claim 6, wherein each of the plurality of paper handling apparatuses comprises any one of an image forming apparatus for forming an image, a paper feeding apparatus for feeding the paper to the image forming apparatus, and a paper post-processing apparatus for performing a post-process to the paper which was discharged from the image forming apparatus.

11. (Original) The image forming system of claim 6, wherein any one of the plurality of paper handling apparatuses comprises an image forming apparatus comprising a displacement detection section for detecting a displacement of a paper in a direction perpendicular to a paper carrying directions, and a correction section for correcting a displacement of the paper according to a detected result by the displacement detection section.

12. (Original) The image forming system of claim 6, comprising an image forming apparatus on an upstream side for forming an image on a first side of the paper and, an image forming apparatus on a downstream side for forming an image on a second surface of the paper.

13. (New) The paper handling apparatus of claim 1, wherein the paper handling apparatus and the other paper handling apparatus are positioned at a proper position in a carrying path width direction by the coupling section.

14. (New) The image forming system of claim 6, wherein the paper handling apparatus and the other paper handling apparatus are positioned at a proper position in a carrying path width direction by the coupling section.